

President's request for Pell Grants and other student aid programs.

There is a surge in crime wherever you go. The violence in Omaha in the mall; the violence dealing with the church and mission school out west. We now have 20 extra million dollars for Cops on the Beat.

And then, of course, the tragedy of falling bridges, an inventory in my own district that suggested the falling bridges. We have increased dollars for that.

I am very glad that there is money in here for the Texas Southern University lab for domestic violence in the City of Houston, but I am disappointed, Madam Speaker, because we have fallen on the job. And because most of America wants our troops home, now we have money for Iraq in this bill.

We have a crisis. I sat in a hearing today to listen to a woman violated, abused, sexually violated in Iraq. No control. Recklessness going on. I went down the hall to another hearing, and members or representatives of the Iraqi Parliament said, how dare the United Nations cast a vote for more troops to be in Iraq without consulting with this new democratic government.

We need to bring the troops home. Our troops deserve honor. I have authored a bill, the Military Success Act of 2007, that says the troops have done everything they have been asked to do. Give them their honor, give them their awards, have a proclamation celebrating their heroism. But the troops need to come home. And this bill does not need to be filled with Iraqi money, because the American people, over 60 percent, have said, we are done, we are finished. We have committed the greatest sacrifice, our children, our husbands, our wives, our grandmothers, our grandfathers, our family members. We have said that we have done everything that we have been asked to do by the 2002 resolution, of which I voted against. It is now finished. It is over. The troops need to come home.

So, Madam Speaker, I think it is important that we acknowledge this bill and the work that we have tried to do. But, sadly, this bill needs to fall because of the Iraq dollars.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Yesterday's Senate vote for another blank check to President Bush for the Iraq war was as wrongheaded as the Senate's original 2002 blessing for that invasion, despite the strong opposition of most House Democrats.

Of course the Iraq surge has worked. Not the surge in Iraq. That surge has failed miserably, failed to achieve any of the political objectives, the benchmarks that the President set himself. No. The only surge that has worked is the propaganda surge here in Washington. Hemorrhaging more dollars and

more blood into the sands of Iraq is not a formula for achieving success.

The taxpayers' price for Iraq is \$3 billion every week of every month of the year. Take all the money that is used to research and seek a cure for cancer at the National Institute for Cancer, that is how much money we spend in Iraq in 2 weeks. But whether deaths are up or deaths are down, "the Administration's consistent response is the troops cannot come home."

We need to learn from the courage displayed by our troops. My colleagues in this House need to learn from that courage and vote to limit any more funding in this war to a fully funded, safe, redeployment from Iraq that begins today.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I withdraw the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution is withdrawn.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair lays before the House the following privileged message from the Senate.

The Clerk read as follows:

In the Senate of the United States, December 19, 2007.

Ordered, That the Secretary be directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the bill and all accompanying papers relative to (H.R. 2764) entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes," and that upon the compliance of the request, the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to make corrections in the engrossment of the aforesaid bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the request of the Senate for the return of the papers on H.R. 2764 is agreed to.

There was no objection.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the House of Representatives amendment numbered 1 to the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2764) "An Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes."

Resolved further, That the Senate agrees to amendment numbered 2 of the House of Representatives with an amendment to the aforesaid bill.

EMERGENCY AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE FRAUD PENALTY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

Senate bill (S. 863) to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraud in connection with major disaster or emergency funds.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 863

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Emergency and Disaster Assistance Fraud Penalty Enhancement Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1040. Fraud in connection with major disaster or emergency benefits

"(a) Whoever, in a circumstance described in subsection (b) of this section, knowingly—

"(1) falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device any material fact; or

"(2) makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation,

in any matter involving any benefit authorized, transported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed, or paid in connection with a major disaster declaration under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) or an emergency declaration under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191), or in connection with any procurement of property or services related to any emergency or major disaster declaration as a prime contractor with the United States or as a subcontractor or supplier on a contract in which there is a prime contract with the United States, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 30 years, or both.

"(b) A circumstance described in this subsection is any instance where—

"(1) the authorization, transportation, transmission, transfer, disbursement, or payment of the benefit is in or affects interstate or foreign commerce;

"(2) the benefit is transported in the mail at any point in the authorization, transportation, transmission, transfer, disbursement, or payment of that benefit; or

"(3) the benefit is a record, voucher, payment, money, or thing of value of the United States, or of any department or agency thereof.

"(c) In this section, the term 'benefit' means any record, voucher, payment, money or thing of value, good, service, right, or privilege provided by the United States, a State or local government, or other entity."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"1040. Fraud in connection with major disaster or emergency benefits."

SEC. 3. INCREASED CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ENGAGING IN WIRE, RADIO, AND TELEVISION FRAUD DURING AND RELATION TO A PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.

Section 1343 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting: "occurs in relation to, or involving any benefit authorized,